

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Executive Board Session – Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Approved 11/21/2023

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video). The video of the meeting can be found at the following link:
<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2568#video>

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ty Wessell at 9:00 a.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited, followed by a moment of silence.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	District #1	Jamie Kramer	PRESENT
	#2	James O'Rourke	PRESENT
	#3	Doug Rexroat	PRESENT
	#4	Ty Wessell	PRESENT
	#5	Kama Ross	PRESENT
	#6	Gwenne Allgaier	PRESENT
	#7	Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT

Guests present.

Approval of Agenda / Late Additions or Deletions:

Chairman Wessell said he has received two late addition items to be added to the agenda for today. He stated that Late Addition #1 – RCI / Richter Construction, Inc. Agreement with the County of Leelanau will be added as Agenda Item #9c and Late Addition #2 – Sean Cowan Employment Agreement with the County of Leelanau will be added as Agenda Item #9d.

MOTION BY O'ROURKE THAT THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER / REXROAT.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Communications, Proclamations, Presentations –
Administrator Update:

► Administrator Allen gave a report to the Board of Commissioners.

The report can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/county_administrator_report_10_3.pdf

Chairman Wessell asked Chief Finance Officer Sean Cowan to the table for additional comments.

► Chief Finance Officer Sean Cowan said he appreciates the opportunity to thank the Board today. He stated that taking on the role earlier in the late spring early summer he thinks we knew there were challenges and uncertainties. Cowan commented he really appreciates the Board's commitment to this role, to what he thinks this role can be, and by that role of finance

responsibilities and the Board's willingness to give him the opportunity to take that on. He stated that he would be remiss if he didn't already say that the folks in this building, he would really like to say thank you to. Cowan continued that the friendship and willingness to accept him from the start has made all the difference in attaining success. He said there is a great opportunity in front of the County and the development of this role and placing it at the right level to support what you need as Commissioners is the most important mission that he has seen since the start and this is a great step towards that. Cowan continued that it will not be easy and that with every opportunity there are challenges in front of us and there are a number of difficult decisions he believes that comes with this. There will be commitments necessary to resources and priorities that will require discussion and he would love to try to support those. He said the most pressing thing in his mind is the timeline that we are looking at and there are some things relatively quickly that he would like to address and so he knows the discussion around establishment of the Finance Committee. Cowan continued that he has made a commitment to Chairman Wessell to get going as quickly as possible and the biggest thing is getting the work done, which he will take on immediately.

► Commissioner O'Rourke stated that it appears there are seven people here that really care about your (Cowan) work. He said he (O'Rourke) really enjoys the presentations and cheat sheets and wanted to let Cowan know that his (O'Rourke's) phone is always on and Cowan can call anytime.

► Commissioner Allgaier thanked Cowan for his service.

► Commissioner Kramer stated she too has an open-door policy and please feel free to contact us.

► Chairman Wessell said the contract presented today used to reference banked vacation time but that has since been removed.

► Chief Finance Officer Cowan stated that philosophically what he wanted most was to reflect in contract terms simply what he thinks he was brought here to do initially and he is not looking for any additional compensation. He said he philosophically has had some challenges around vacation and flexibility, so he specifically asked that he will take on the role model that he doesn't want to bank any vacation days and has asked that portion be removed and he appreciates the Board's consideration with that.

Chairman Wessell asked for a round of applause for Sean Cowan and stated that Administrator Allen has been incredibly helpful during this process.

Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Agency Update:

Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority Interim Chief Executive Officer Brian S. Martinus was present and answered Commissioner questions.

The presentation can be found at the following link: (pages 2-13)

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/10032023_executive_board_pkt_opt.pdf

Commissioners thanked Martinus for the update.

Northwest Regional Airport Authority Update:

Northwest Regional Airport Authority Director Kevin Klein and Board Chairman Steve Plamondon were present and answered Commissioner questions.

The presentation can be found at the following link: (pages 14-22)

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/10032023_executive_board_pkt_opt.pdf

Commissioners thanked Klein and Plamondon for the update.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person: Steve Mikowski and Scott Richards.

The written comments can be found at the following link:

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2568#handouts>

Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Allgaier distributed to the Board the list of members who are on the Energy Futures Task Force and stated the first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5, 2023.

Energy Futures Task Force members:

Joe De Fors – Leelanau Energy

Peter Wolcott – Leelanau Energy

Tom Van Pelt – Cherryland Electric

Eric Gustadt – Consumers Energy

Lisa Brookfield – Leland Township Clerk

Courtney Hessel – Environmental Director, GT Band

Lois Bahle – Citizen / Resident

Bronwyn Jones – Citizen / Resident

Steve Ruddell – Non-Profit

Kama Ross – County Commissioner District #5

Gwenne Allgaier – County Commissioner District #6

Melinda Lautner – County Commissioner District #7 / Agriculture

John Dindi – Resident / Agriculture

Russ Packard – Resident

The Energy Futures Task Force handout can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/energy_futures_task_force_handout_10032023.pdf

- Commissioner Lautner asked if the table in the Board room could have the same type of microphones used by Board members since they pick up more and sound better.
- Chairman Wessell requested Administrator Allen to look into Commissioner Lautner's suggestion.

Action Items:

Sheriff's Office – Animal Control Boarding Contract Renewal, Cherryland Humane Society:
Undersheriff James Kiessel was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT FOR 2024 BETWEEN THE LEELANAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE CHERRYLAND HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOARDING AND ANIMAL SERVICES, AT A COST OF \$3,600.00; FUNDS TO COME FROM #101.225.430.814.000, WITH THE BOARD CHAIRMAN AND SHERIFF AS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES. SECONDED BY KRAMER / O'ROURKE.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner asked if Grand Traverse is negotiating then who is going to negotiate for us? Undersheriff Kiessel replied that it will be him.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)

NO – 0 **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Sheriff's Office – Approval of Secondary Road Patrol Grant Agreement:

Undersheriff James Kiessel was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF THE SECONDARY ROAD PATROL GRANT FROM THE MICHIGAN OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND PLANNING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 [OCTOBER 1, 2023, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,474.00]. THE BOARD FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE BOARD CHAIR, FINANCE DIRECTOR AND SHERIFF TO SIGN THE GRANT. SECONDED BY KRAMER.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0 **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Finance/Human Resources – Non-Union Uniform/Gun Allowance Request:

Human Resources Director Darcy Weaver was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE UNIFORM AND GUN ALLOWANCE FOR THE NON-UNION PERSONNEL (SHERIFF, UNDERSHERIFF, AND MARINE DEPUTIES) THROUGH PAYROLL, WITH APPROPRIATE TAXES WITHHELD, IF RECEIPTS ARE NOT PROVIDED: SHERIFF / \$250.00 GUN / \$575.00 UNIFORM – FOR A TOTAL OF \$825.00; UNDERSHERIFF KIESEL / \$250.00 GUN / \$575.00 UNIFORM – FOR A TOTAL OF \$825.00;

THREE (3) COURT BALIFFS / \$225.00 UNIFORM – 3 @ \$75.00 UNIFORM EACH WITH EXPENSES TO COME FROM #101.225.301.703.742

MARINE DEPUTIES:

ONE (1) SENIOR OFFICER @ \$150.00

THREE (3) JUNIOR OFFICERS @ \$100.00 EACH FOR A TOTAL OF \$300.00 WITH EXPENSES TO COME FROM #101.225.331.703.742

SECONDED BY REXROAT.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0 **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Solid Waste Council – Approval of Recycling Host Site Agreements:

Planning Department Senior Planner Gail Meyer was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE FIVE YEAR RECYCLING AGREEMENTS WITH LEELANAU COUNTY AND ELMWOOD TOWNSHIP, EMPIRE VILLAGE, NORTHPORT VILLAGE, GLEN LAKE SCHOOL, THE LEELANAU SCHOOL, AND THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA & CHIPPEWA INDIANS, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

County Clerk – Elections Board of Canvassers Appointments:

County Clerk Michelle L. Crocker was present for the Agenda Item. Crocker requested each Board member to fill out a ballot to nominate two members to the Board of Canvassers. Crocker answered questions from Commissioners and called a roll call vote with the following responses:

Commissioner Wessell – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner O'Rourke – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner Ross – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner Rexroat – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner Kramer – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner Allgaier – Harbottle and Lind

Commissioner Lautner – Harbottle and Lind

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT JOHN HARBOTTLE AND ERIC LIND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS EACH TO A FOUR-YEAR TERM NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2027. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Equalization – Approval of the Leelanau County Apportionment Report, L-4402:

Administrator Allen spoke to the Agenda Item due to Equalization Director Andrew Giguere being unable to attend today.

The Leelanau County Apportionment Report, L-4402 can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/2023_apportionment_report_10032023.pdf

MOTION BY ROSS TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT REPORT (L-4402), AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY KRAMER.

Discussion – Chairman Wessell invited Equalization Director Giguere to attend the Regular Session, if at all possible, for further explanation of the report.

AYES – 7 (Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Information Technology – Purchase of Desktop Computers, Dell Technologies:

IT Technician Liana Wilson was present for the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 10 NEW DELL COMPUTERS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$11,318.40, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM DATA PROCESSING FUND #636. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – Chairman Wessell asked Chief Finance Officer Cowan if the motion needed to state that the bid policy was being waived? Cowan stated that the last time he and Administrator Allen spoke in regards to the bid policy it would be good to clarify in more detail that policy and that he doesn't have any concerns today about this motion. Chairman Wessell asked both Commissioner Allgaier and Commissioner Ross if they would amend the motion to say waive county bid policy, which they agreed to.

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO WAIVE COUNTY BID POLICY AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 10 NEW DELL COMPUTERS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$11,318.40, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM DATA PROCESSING FUND #636. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Leelanau Township Tower Update:

Director of Emergency Management/9-1-1 Director Matt Ansorge stated that Machin Engineering is very close to finalizing with the Leelanau County Road Commission the driveway engineering plan and Ansorge is very confident that the agreement with the land owner will be signed by the end of the week.

Government Center Projects – HVAC Project Bid Recommendation:

Administrator Allen stated there were no bids received.

Government Center Projects – FAH Architecture, PLLC, Project Manager Proposal, Lower-Level Buildout:

Administrator Allen spoke to the Agenda Item.

MOTION BY KRAMER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEELANAU COUNTY AND FAH ARCHITECTURE, PLLC, OF HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN, TO ACT AS PROJECT MANAGER OF THE BENZIE/LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE LOWER-LEVEL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, AS PRESENTED, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$12,469.63; FUNDS TO COME FROM SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion ensued regarding the agreement with the Benzie/Leelanau Health Department and if this agreement with FAH Architecture, PLLC of Harbor Springs, Michigan, will be cost shared.

Chairman Wessell asked Commissioners Kramer and Allgaier if they would remove the motion and both Commissioners agreed.

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MOVE FORWARD AGENDA ITEM GOVERNMENT CENTER PROJECTS – FAH ARCHITECTURE, PPLC, PROJECT MANAGER PROPOSAL, LOWER-LEVEL BUILDOUT TO THE REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 7 (Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Administration – Maple Valley Nursing Home Septic Field Decommissioning Update:

Administrator Allen stated the Board received communication from John Kasben Jr. of the Maple Valley Nursing Home on the status of the septic field that was located on County property, which has now been decommissioned.

Administration – MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) Dues:

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE 2023/2024 MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,000.00 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES #101.100.101.807.000. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE.

Discussion regarding the various years and various amounts paid to MAC for dues and why the amount is less than the invoice. Commissioner Lautner gave a brief explanation on how the dues amount is calculated each year.

AYES – 7 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Late Addition #1 – Administration – RCI/Richter Construction

Administrator Allen stated the County Clerk was gracious enough to put information together regarding the agreement and this is the formality of approving the RCI contract. Allen said the Board approved the bid but the Board did not make a motion to move forward with the actual contract that is being presented today.

The Richter Construction Inc. (RCI) Agreement can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/richter_construction_inc.pdf

MOTION BY ALLGAIER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEELANAU AND RCI / RICHTER CONSTRUCTION INC., FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING THE BUILDOUT OF THE LOWER-LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SPACE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$356,275.00 AND THAT THE CHAIRMAN BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. FUNDS TO COME FROM FUND #470 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDS WITH A TRANSFER OF _____ (TBD) FROM _____(TBD). SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – Commissioner Lautner thanked County Clerk Crocker for getting the Board back in line on this project. She said this boils down to communication to make sure the Board is following all the steps properly and she knows the Board will look at the whole proposal for the towers as well. Lautner commented that if the Leelanau Township Tower can be finalized by this Friday, then the Board should be able to have it ready for approval by Tuesday. She stated these

types of processes are very important and she is concerned about the balance in Fund #470 because all types of money are being spent but the Board really doesn't know where it's coming from. Lautner said it would be nice if all that magic could happen for next Tuesday at Regular Session.

Chairman Wessell stated he was ready to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board except there was no Board motion passed authorizing him to do so.

AYES – 6 (Allgaier, Kramer, Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell)
NO – 1 (Lautner) **RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Late Addition #2 – Administration – Employment Agreement Sean Cowan:

Chairman Wessell said that Administrator Allen and himself have been working with legal counsel to achieve the employment agreement being presented.

The Employment Agreement can be found at the following link:

https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/s_cowan_employment_agreement_10032023.pdf

MOTION BY REXROAT TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND SEAN COWAN, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY O'ROURKE / ALLGAIER.

Discussion – Commissioner O'Rourke said it was brought up yesterday about who has the title of Chief Finance Officer. O'Rourke asked if the Administrator still has the title or did the Board take it from her and give it Cowan and so there is one Chief Finance Officer?

Chairman Wessell explained that when the Board gets done voting next Tuesday then the County will have one Chief Finance Officer. He stated he talked with the attorney about that and his position is that Cowan has rescinded his resignation and the position of Finance Director is still valid, so Cowan will serve as Finance Director for the duration until the contract is voted on at the Regular Session meeting on October 10, 2023, which is Chairman Wessell's understanding along with Administrator Allen's understanding.

Commissioner Kramer thanked Cowan for reconsidering.

Commissioner Allgaier asked what is banked vacation time?

Administrator Allen replied it is vacation time that rolls over and can be held in a bank of accumulated leave. She gave an example that the contract could read to have 25 days of vacation earned with an accumulated total of 50 days. Allen stated each contract and policy can be different and, in this instance, Cowan has opted to not have the ability to accumulate more than the allotted 25 days for 2023 to 2024.

Commissioner Rexroat said typically it is unused vacation days that could be rolled to the next year.

Commissioner Allgaier stated there will be a new contract in January.

Chief Finance Officer Cowan stated that one of the things he asked for was a short-term agreement here “to get a plan to get a plan” and in his mind to the questions or comments on making sure everybody is at the table for decision making. What he would love to be able to do is to come back and articulate what he would think of as milestones. He said he thinks there are some relatively important steps along the path as we start to go forward that would represent decision points on things like resourcing, technology, and support. Cowan commented those kinds of items is why he was looking for a shorter term just to be able to try to get those in order and then based on if that is hitting the mark with the Board, then we move onto the next step.

Commissioner Allgaier thanked Cowan for reconsidering.

Commissioner O'Rourke asked how can the Board get you (Cowan) more help?

Chief Finance Officer Cowan replied that he doesn't know that answer and so back to his milestones, to him the question on resources and the skill set of those resources and how we want to align it depends on what we take on. Cowan continued that to him one of the big things on the table, obviously, that has been talked about and information has been shared from the transition document, for example from Rehmann, would be one of the considerations imbedded within that. He stated we have a chance as a full board or a committee to run through that but he thinks the implication in there are changes and with those changes is in his mind there are different paths you go, which also include how much can we automate. There is a short-term and a long-term answer to that, but he doesn't know the answer, although he has suggested to his “get a plan to get a plan” kind of a thought he thinks if we had a consensus agreement on where we were going, he thinks the next question then to him is that resourcing question. Whether that is incremental or that is or already does exist in the building he doesn't know but he appreciates the question. He stated he felt a little bit, when he approached it initially, that it was the cart in front of the horse in his mind.

Commissioner O'Rourke said he sees that and maybe he isn't doing his job enough getting the help or the hours needed because the Board is under the gun and it doesn't have to be a permanent thing but the Board needs to get on top of the budget and get it done.

Chief Finance Officer Cowan stated he agrees with Commissioner O'Rourke. He said when he was making notes to himself if he had a before you even get to step one is how do we bring closure to the budget process.

Commissioner O'Rourke stated that it doesn't have to be permanent and it can be temporary because everyone here would be glad to work with you.

Chief Finance Officer Cowan said he appreciates that.

Commissioner Lautner said she wanted to clarify something, because there was a special Session of the Board on Monday which she thought made Sean Cowan CFO. Once the Board took action on Monday which was a firm action with a contract to follow. Lautner asked why does the Board have to wait until Tuesday at the Regular Session to become the CFO? She said she thought it was immediate.

Chairman Wessell replied the he can ask that question of legal counsel. Wessell said he thinks it is immediate, but he thinks they were advised that way.

Administrator Allen said she thinks there are a few steps like rescinding of the resignation and other pieces to give the Board some time. She stated that if the Board's pleasure is to move forward with it as immediate, she thinks its fine, and so whatever that recommendation is it was just a matter of making sure what legal had recommended in terms of a formal rescinding.

Chairman Wessell stated that his understanding is that you can't have somebody without a contract because the contract really isn't official by the Board rules until the Board meeting. He said the Board agreed Cowan is officially the Chief Finance Officer but he and Administrator Allen will get clarification.

Commissioner Lautner said the contract that she is looking at which was presented to the Board has the date of October 2, 2023.

Chairman Wessell stated that late yesterday he asked if there could be another Special Session held before the Executive Session today and he was told there wasn't enough time to post a Special Session. He said he will check into that and communicate back with the Board. Wessell commented that Cowan is the Chief Financial Officer and that he (Wessell) looks forward to Cowan's roll of pull all the leaders in the building together to do all things finance.

Commissioner Allgaier reiterated that there was a change made two and half years ago that was not planned and the Board now has the opportunity to have Cowan teach us and create a Finance Office from his experience because he has done this.

Commissioner Kramer said she would like to commend and give kudos to all the staff in Leelanau County because she has spoken to other commissioners in other counties and they haven't even spoken to their budgets yet and here in Leelanau County we are doing our due diligence.

ROLL CALL: Rexroat – YES; Ross – YES; Wessell – YES; Allgaier – YES; Kramer – YES; Lautner – YES; O'Rourke – YES.

AYES – 7 NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Review Of Financials:

Chief Finance Officer Sean Cowan and Assistant Finance Director Cathy Hartesvelt were present and answered Commissioner questions.

Chairman Wessell called for a break at 10:44 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:52 a.m.

Special Reports by Staff, Commissioners, and Affiliated Agencies:

- Chairman Wessell stated there is a letter of support in front of the Board, except it is on the wrong letterhead which will get corrected before next week, for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the revised letter will be added as a Late Addition to the Regular Session agenda for Tuesday, October 10, 2023, authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person: Tim McCalley, Bill Wiesner, and Steve Mikowski.

The written comments can be found at the following link:

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2568#handouts>

Commissioner Comment:

- Commissioner Allgaier said she would also like to thank Cathy Hartesvelt and the Clerk and the Chief Deputy Clerk over the last couple of years for keeping the Finance Department a float through a lot of change and turmoil and keeping the County sound. She let the audience know that when in motions TBD is used it is because there still needs to be a determination of which fund the money will come from.
- Commissioner Kramer said she attended the PRIDE event in Traverse City, Michigan, and her husband worked the majority of the events. She stated the marginal communities and the youth that feel safe to attend those spaces are so pivotal to our community and really understanding that is so important. Kramer continued that these kids need our support because these kids are the kids that sometimes commit suicide and don't feel accepted. She said that understanding why that is important is a lesson that can be explored at some point and she would love to discuss different perspectives because it is important. Kramer stated that we each have our own beautiful views but not everyone has the same ones.

Approval of Financials —
Amendments & Transfers:

None.

Miscellaneous Fund Transfers and Amendments:

None.

Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,700.44. SECONDED BY ALLGAIER.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Post Audit Claims and Accounts:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE POST AUDIT CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,362,112.58. SECONDED BY ROSS.

Discussion – None.

AYES – 7 (Lautner, O'Rourke, Rexroat, Ross, Wessell, Allgaier, Kramer)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Adjournment:

Chairman Wessell adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Ty Wessell, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Jennifer L. Zywicki, Chief Deputy Clerk for
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk